

The Ten Commandments

The Testimony

Deuteronomy 5:1-6

And Moses called all Israel, and said unto them, Hear, O Israel, the statutes and judgments which I speak in your ears this day, that ye may learn them, and keep, and do them. The Lord our God made a covenant with us in Horeb. The Lord made not this covenant with our fathers, but with us, even us, who are all of us here alive this day. The Lord talked with you face to face in the mount out of the midst of the fire, (I stood between the Lord and you at that time, to shew you the word of the Lord: for ye were afraid by reason of the fire, and went not up into the mount;) saying, I am the Lord thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.

The Purpose for the Law of Moses

Mosiah 8:6-7 "...yea, even a very strict law: for they were a stiff-necked people:"

Exodus 32:9 "...I have seen this people, and, behold, it is a stiffnecked people:"

The Desired Outcome of the Law of Moses

2 Nephi 11:44-47 "...until the law shall be fulfilled; for, for this end was the law given;"

The Commandments (Exodus 20:3-17; Deuteronomy 5:7-21; Mosiah 7:95-124)

1. (Deuteronomy 5:7) Thou shalt have none other gods before me.

Deuteronomy 6:4-6 "...Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God is one Lord:"

Egypt was a polytheistic society -- they worshipped over eighty gods.

"The Egyptians considered sacred the lion, the ox, the ram, the wolf, the dog, the cat, the ibis, the vulture, the falcon, the hippopotamus, the crocodile, the cobra, the dolphin, different varieties of fish, trees, and small animals including the frog, scarab, locust and other insects. In addition to these there were anthropomorphic gods; that is, men in the prime of life such as Amun, Atum, or Osiris." (John Davis, *Moses and the Gods of Egypt*, p. 95).

"Even Pharaoh was a god, always the son of Amon-Ra, ruling not merely by divine right but by divine birth, as a deity transiently tolerating the earth as his home. On his head was the falcon, symbol of Horus and totem of the tribe; from his forehead rose the uraeus or serpent, symbol of wisdom and life, and communicating magic virtues to the crown. The king was chief-priest of the faith, and led the great processions and ceremonies that celebrated the festivals of the gods. It was through this assumption of divine lineage and powers that he was able to rule so long with so little force." (Will Durant, *The Story of Civilization: Our Oriental Heritage*, Volume 1, p. 201).

Jesus Testimony of "One God"

Mark 12:29-30 "...Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord:"

Matthew Henry's Commentary On the Whole Bible (pg124; section III, para. 1)

"The sin against this commandment which we are most in danger of is giving the glory and honour to any creature which are due to God only. Pride makes a god of self, covetousness makes a god of money, sensuality (natural body i.e. 1 Corinthians 15:44; Jude 1:18-19) makes a

The Ten Commandments

god of the belly; whatever is esteemed or loved, feared or served, delighted in or depended on, more than God, that (whatever it is) we do in effect make a god of.”

1 Corinthians 2:14 “...But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God:”

The Fear of God

Deuteronomy 6:1-2 “...That thou mightest fear the Lord thy God, to keep all his statutes”

Exodus 12:12 “...and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the Lord.”

Leviticus 9:23-24 “...And there came a fire out from before the Lord, and consumed”

1 Kings 18:36-39 “...Then the fire of the Lord fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice,”

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 “...Fear God, and keep his commandments:”

Psalms 111:10 “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom:”

Psalms 33:18 “Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon them that fear him,”

Psalms 46:10 “Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen,”

Alma 16:237 “...that ye should work out your salvation with fear before God,”

John 4:23-24 “...when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth:”

2. (Deuteronomy 5:8-10) Thou shalt not make thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the waters beneath the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself unto them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me, And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me and keep my commandments.

Two Part Commandment

a. The Warning

- Make any graven image, or any likeness of anything
- Bow down, nor serve them

God is a Spirit

2 Corinthians 6:16 “...for ye are the temple of the living God;”

God Gave Them up to Worship the Host of Heaven (Spiritual Adultery)

Acts 7:39-43 “...And they made a calf in those days, and offered sacrifice unto the idol,”

b. The Consequence for Rejecting or Obeying God

- Visit iniquity of the fathers upon the children up to 3rd & 4th generation
- Show mercy to thousands of those who love him and keep the commandments

Rejecting God (around 623 BC)

2 Kings 22:16-17 “...Behold, I will bring evil upon this place, and upon the inhabitants”

2 Kings 23:26-27 “...I will remove Judah also out of my sight, as I have removed Israel,”

Obeying God

2 Nephi 1:3-7 “...I have seen a vision, in which I know that Jerusalem is destroyed; “

The Ten Commandments

Jacob 2:34-35 "...I have led this people forth out of the land of Jerusalem,"

Serpent of Brass (1 Nephi 5:130-135; Alma 16:191-197 teaching aid "To Look")

To Be used as an Instrument for Healing

Numbers 21:8-9 "...Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole"

Not to be Worshipped

2 Kings 18:1-6 "...and brake in pieces the brasen serpent that Moses had made."

Eating things that are offered unto idols

1 Corinthians 8:4-6 "As concerning therefore the eating of those things that are offered"

God Acknowledges His Son

Matthew 17:1-6 "...This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him."

To Whom Then Will Ye Liken God?

Isaiah 40:17-18, 25-28 "All nations before him are as nothing;"

Matthew Henry's Commentary On the Whole Bible (pg124; section III, para. 1 & 2)

(1.2) ... The use of images in the church of Rome, at this day, is so plainly contrary to the letter of this command, and so impossible to be reconciled to it, that in all their catechisms and books of devotion, which they put into the hands of the people, they leave out this commandment, joining the reason of it to the first; and so the third commandment they call the second, the fourth the third, &c.; only, to make up the number ten, they divide the tenth into two. Thus have they committed two great evils, in which they persist, and from which they hate to be reformed; they take away from God's word, and add to his worship.

(2.3) ... As the first commandment requires the inward worship of love, desire, joy, hope and admiration, so the second requires the outward worship of prayer and praise, and solemn attendance on God's word. ...

3. (Deuteronomy 5:11) Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain (**shav**): for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

Strong's number: 7723; Hebrew: **shav'** Pronunciation: shawv or shav {shav}; from the same as 7722 in the sense of desolating; evil (as destructive), literally (ruin) or morally (especially guile); figuratively idolatry (as false, subjective), uselessness (as deceptive, objective; also adverbially, in vain): --false(-ly), lie, lying, vain, vanity.

In Jewish thought, this commandment refers solely to oath-taking, and is a prohibition against swearing by God's Name falsely or frivolously (the word normally translated as "in vain" literally means "for falsehood").

Significance of a Name

In Jewish thought, a name is not merely an arbitrary designation, a random combination of sounds. The name conveys the nature and essence of the thing named. It represents the history and reputation of the being named.

The Ten Commandments

Christ's Example

3 Nephi 5:102 "Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. (Holy)

Keeping your Word

Psalms 15:4 "...He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not.

Enemy to God

Psalms 139:19-20 "...and thine enemies take thy name in vain."

Not To Swear Falsely or Perjure Oneself

Leviticus 19:12 "And ye shall not swear by my name falsely, neither shalt thou profane"

Deuteronomy 23:21-23

"When thou shalt vow a vow unto the Lord thy God, thou shalt not slack (**achar**) to pay it: But if thou shalt forbear (**chadal**) to vow, it shall be no sin in thee."

Hebrew

slack – "**achar**" to procrastinate, delay, hinder, be late;

forbear – "**chadal**" to cease, leave off)

Matthew 5:33-37 "...Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne:"

3 Nephi 5:81-83 "...Swear not at all; neither by heaven, for it is God's throne;"

James 3:5-9 "Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things."

Acts 5:1-11 "But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession,"

Examples of Invoking the Name of God

Our Baptism, Blessing children, Marriage, Judicial system, and our Walk in Life:

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good or whether it be evil."

4. (Deuteronomy 5:12-15) Keep the sabbath day to sanctify it, as the Lord thy God hath commanded thee. Six days thou shalt labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, nor thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thine ox, nor thine ass, nor any of thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates; that thy manservant and thy maidservant may rest as well as thou. And remember that thou wast a servant in the land of Egypt, and that the Lord thy God brought thee out thence through a mighty hand and by a stretched out arm: therefore the Lord thy God commanded thee to keep the sabbath day.

God's Example

Genesis 2:2-3 "And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested (**shabath**) on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested (**shabath**) from all his work which God created and made."

The Ten Commandments

Strong's number: 7673; Hebrew: **shabath**; Pronunciation: shaw-bath'; a primitive root; to repose, i.e. desist from exertion; used in many implied relations (causative, figurative or specific): -- (cause to, let, make to) cease, celebrate, cause (make) to fail, keep (sabbath), suffer to be lacking, leave, put away (down), (make to) rest, rid, still, take away.

Blessing from God

Isaiah 56:2 "Blessed is the man that doeth this, and the son of man that layeth hold on it;"

Isaiah 58:13-14 ""If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure"

Christ's Comment Concerning the Sabbath

Mark 2:27-28 "... The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath."

A living Sacrifice (Omni 1:47)

Romans 12:1-2

"...that ye present (**paristemi**) your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God,"

Strong's number: 3936; Present - Greek: **paristemi**; Pronunciation: par-is'-tay-mee; or prolonged paristano {par-is-tan'-o}; from 3844 and 2476; to stand beside, i.e. (transitively) to exhibit, proffer, (specifically) recommend, (figuratively) substantiate; or (intransitively) to be at hand (or ready), aid: --assist, bring before, command, commend, give presently, present, prove, provide, shew, stand (before, by, here, up, with), yield.

Mosiah 9:58 "... there was one day in every week that was set apart that they should gather"

Continuation of Sabbath's

Isaiah 66:22-23 "... from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me,"

Sabbath for the Land (Leviticus 25:2-7)

5. (Deuteronomy 5:16) Honour (**kabed**) thy father and thy mother, as the Lord thy God hath commanded thee; that thy days may be prolonged, and that it may go well with thee, in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

Strong's number: 3515; Honour - Hebrew: **kabed**; Pronunciation: kaw-bade'; from 3513; heavy; figuratively in a good sense (numerous) or in a bad sense (severe, difficult, stupid): -(so) great, grievous, hard(-ened), (too) heavy(-ier), laden, much, slow, sore, thick.

Fear (Reverence)

Leviticus 19:1-3

"... Ye shall fear (**yare**) every man his mother, and his father, and keep my sabbaths."

Strong's number: 3372; Fear - Hebrew: **yare**'; Pronunciation: yaw-ray'; a primitive root; to fear; morally, to revere; caus. to frighten: -affright, be (make) afraid, dread(-ful), (put in) fear(-ful, -fully, -ing), (be had in)

Duties of, toward Children

Ephesians 6:1-4 "Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour (**timao**) thy father and mother;" (which is the first commandment with promise;)"

The Ten Commandments

Strong's number: 5091; Honour - Greek: **timao**; Pronunciation: tim-ah'-o; from 5093; to prize, i.e. fix a valuation upon; by implication, to revere: --honour, value.

Hebrews 12:5-12 "Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us,"

Colossians 3:20-21 "...Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged."

Man's Condition in the Last Days

2 Timothy 3:15 "...For men shall be lovers of their own selves,"

The marriage rate for African-Americans has been dropping since the 1960s, and today, we have the lowest marriage rate of any racial group in the United States. In 2001, according to the U.S. Census, 43.3% of black men and 41.9% of black women in America had never been married, in contrast to 27.4% and 20.7% respectively for whites.

6. (Deuteronomy 5:17) Thou shalt not kill.

Murder

Strong's number: 7523; Hebrew: **ratsach**; Pronunciation: raw-tsakh'; a primitive root; properly, to dash in pieces, i.e. kill (a human being), especially to murder: --put to death, kill, (man-)slay(-er), murder(-er).

A General Term Used (interpreted in English kill; killed; killeth)

Strong's number: 4191; Hebrew: **muwth**; Pronunciation: mooth; a primitive root: to die (literally or figuratively); causatively, to kill: --X at all, X crying, (be) dead (body, man, one), (put to, worthy of) death, destroy(-er), (cause to, be like to, must) die, kill, necro[-mancer], X must needs, slay, X surely, X very suddenly, X in [no] wise.

Manslaughter (i.e. Numbers 35:11 "which killeth (**nakah**) any person at unawares")

Strong's number: 5221; Hebrew: **nakah**; Pronunciation: naw-kaw'; a primitive root; to strike (lightly or severely, literally or figuratively): --beat, cast forth, clap, give [wounds], X go forward, X indeed, kill, make [slaughter], murderer, punish, slaughter, slay(-er, -ing), smite(-r, -ing), strike, be stricken, (give) stripes, X surely, wound.

A Term used in the Killing of Animals (i.e. Exodus 29:11 "thou shalt kill (**shachat**) the bullock")

Strong's number: 7819; Hebrew: **shachat**; Pronunciation: shaw-khat'; a primitive root; to slaughter (in sacrifice or massacre): --kill, offer, shoot out, slay, slaughter.

To Kill in Warfare, or by Decree, Capital Punishment (i.e. Eccl 3:3 "a time to kill (**harag**)")

Strong's number: 2026; Hebrew: **harag**; Pronunciation: haw-rag'; a primitive root; to smite with deadly intent: - destroy, out of hand, kill, murder(-er), put to [death], make [slaughter], slay(-er), X surely.

Satan - Murderer from the Beginning (Genesis 2:17; 3:4)

John 8:44 "...He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth,"

God's Reason for Destroying the World with a Flood

Genesis 6:11-13 "... The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with **violence** through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth."

Note: "violence" defined by Isaiah 59:1-8; Zion will be free from "violence" Isaiah 60:18

The Ten Commandments

The Teachings of Christ

3 Nephi 5:69-70 "...And whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of"

Note: Raca - O empty one, i.e. thou worthless (as a term of utter vilification)

Matthew 5:21-22 "... That whosoever is angry with his brother **without a cause** shall be"

Note: "without a cause" was added by a scribe 400yrs after Christ

1 John 3:14-15 "... Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer (**anthropoktonos**)."

Strong's number: 443; Greek: **anthropoktonos**; Pronunciation: anth-ro-pok-ton'-os; from 444 and kteine (to kill); a manslayer: --murderer. Compare 5406.

The Days of Mankind are Determined by God

Job 14:1-5 "... Seeing his days are determined, the number of his months are with thee,"

Acts 17:26-27 "... and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds"

2 Nephi 1:107-109 "And the days of the children of men were prolonged,"

Alma 19:90-91 "... this probationary state became a state for them to prepare;"

Alma 16:228-230 "For behold, this life is the time for men to prepare to meet God:"

Ecclesiastes 3:2 "A time to be born, and a time to die;"

Premature Death

Homicide – a manslayer

Suicide – the act of killing oneself purposely (not suicide - Alma 15:30-35)

Feticide – Intentional destruction of a human fetus (The American Heritage Dictionary)

Abortion

The incidence of and reasons for induced abortion vary in regions in which abortion is generally permitted. It has been estimated approximately 46 million abortions are performed globally each year. Of these, 26 million are said to occur in places where abortion is legal; the other 20 million happen where it is illegal. Some countries, such as Belgium and the Netherlands, have a low rate of induced abortion, while others like Russia and Vietnam have a comparatively high rate. ^[2]

Rates of abortion also vary depending upon the stage of pregnancy and the method practiced. In 2002, from data collected in those areas of the United States which sufficiently reported gestational age, (age of a fetus (or newborn infant) from presumed conception) it was found that 86.7% of abortions were conducted at or prior to 12 weeks, 9.9% from 13 to 20 weeks, and 1.4% at or after 21 weeks. 91.3% percent of these were classified as having been done by "curettage" (suction-aspiration, D&C, D&E), 5.2% by "medical" (chemical abortion) means (mifepristone RU-486), 0.8% by "intrauterine instillation" (saline or prostaglandin), and 1.5 % by "other" (hysterotomy and hysterectomy). ^[3] The Guttmacher Institute estimated that there were 2,200 intact dilation and extraction procedures in the U.S. during 2000 which would account for only 0.17% of the total number of abortions performed that year. ^[4] Similarly, in England and Wales in 2004, 87.6% of terminations occurred at or under 12 weeks, 10.7% between 13 to 19 weeks, and 1.5% at or over 20 weeks. 76% of those reported were by vacuum aspiration, 4% by D&E, 19% by a chemical agent, and 1% by feticide. ^[5]

The Ten Commandments

A 1998 study aggregated data from studies in 27 countries on the reasons women seek to terminate their pregnancies. It concluded that common factors cited to have influenced the abortion decision were the desire to delay or end childbearing, concern over the interruption of work or education, issues of financial or relationship stability, and perceived immaturity.^[6] In Finland and the United States, concern for the health risks posed by pregnancy in individual cases was not a factor commonly given, whereas in Bangladesh, India, and Kenya such a concern was found to be more prevalent. A 2004 study in which American women at clinics answered a questionnaire yielded similar results.^[7]

Some abortions are undergone as the result of societal pressures. These might include the stigmatization of disabled persons, preference for children of a specific sex, disapproval of single motherhood, insufficient economic support for families, lack of access to or rejection of contraceptive methods, or efforts toward population control (such as China's one-child policy). A combination of these factors can sometimes result in compulsory abortion or sex-selective abortion. In many areas, especially in developing nations or where abortion is illegal, women sometimes resort to "back-alley" or self-induced procedures. The World Health Organization suggests that there are 19 million terminations annually which fit its criteria for an unsafe abortion.

Infanticide - In sociology and biology, **infanticide** is the practice of intentionally causing the death of an infant of a given species, by members of the same species.

Infant euthanasia

Joseph Fletcher, founder of situational ethics and a euthanasia proponent, proposed that infanticide be permitted in cases of severe birth defects. He and philosopher Peter Singer have suggested that it is a logical extension of abortion.

In the Netherlands, euthanasia remains technically illegal for patients under the age of 12. However, Dr. Eduard Verhagen has documented several cases of infant euthanasia. Together with colleagues and prosecutors, he has developed a protocol to be followed in those cases. Prosecutors will refrain from pressing charges if this Groningen protocol is followed.

Euthanasia - (*from Greek: ευθανασία -'ev "good", θάνατος "death"*) refers to assisted dying. The assistance ends the life of a person in a painless or minimally painful way. (Healed by use of Herbs Alma 21:74-77; Healed by Faith B of C 44:35-39 pg 74)

Capital Punishment

Genesis 9:6 "Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed."

Exodus 21:12, 14 "He that smiteth a man, so that he die, shall be surely put to death."

Exodus 22:2 "If a thief be found breaking up, and be smitten that he die, there shall no blood"

Numbers 35:30-34 "... **for blood it defileth the land**: and the land cannot be cleansed"

Note: "for blood it defileth the land" See Deuteronomy 21:1-9

Romans 13:1-7 "...if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain."

Alma 16:212-213 "Now if a man murdereth, behold, will our law, which is just, take the life"

Alma 21:69-72 "...he caused to be put to death;"

Alma 29:10-11 "...whosoever would not take up arms in the defense of their country, but would"

The Ten Commandments

By God's Direction

Exodus 21:13 "And if a man lie not in wait, but God deliver him into his hand;"

1 Nephi 1:119 "And again, I knew that the Lord had delivered Laban into my hands"

By Acts of War

Alma 27:47-48 "...it is according to his commandments that I do take my sword to defend"

3 Nephi 1:49-50 "...were compelled, for the safety of their lives, and their women and their children, to take up arms against those Gadianton robbers;"

Ecclesiastes 3:3, 8 "A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down,"

7. (Deuteronomy. 5:18) Neither shalt thou commit adultery (**na'aph**).

Strong's number: 5003; Hebrew: **na'aph**; Pronunciation: naw-af'; a primitive root; to commit adultery; figuratively, to apostatize: --adulterer(-ess), commit(-ing) adultery, woman that breaketh wedlock.

Gods Expectation

Psalms 50:14 "Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High."

Physical

The Law of Moses

Leviticus 20:10

And the man that committeth adultery (**na'aph**) with another man's wife, even he that committeth adultery (**na'aph**) with his neighbour's wife, the adulterer (**na'aph**) and the adulteress (**na'aph**) shall surely be put to death.

Proverbs 6:32-33

But whoso committeth adultery (**na'aph**) with a woman lacketh understanding: he that doeth it destroyeth his own soul. A wound and dishonour shall he get; and his reproach shall not be wiped away.

Practical Application of Abiding in the Law

Ezra 10:1-4 "...Now therefore let us make a covenant with our God to put away all the wives,"

The Teachings of Christ – Fornication and Adultery are not the same

Matthew 5:27-30

"Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery (**moicheuo**): But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery (**moicheuo**) with her already in his heart."

Strong's number: 3431; Greek: **moicheuo**; Pronunciation: moy-khyoo'-o; from 3432; to commit adultery: --commit adultery.

- a. to be an adulterer
- b. to commit adultery with, have unlawful intercourse with another's wife
- c. of the wife: to suffer adultery, be debauched

The Ten Commandments

- d. A Hebrew idiom, the word is used of those who at a woman's solicitation are drawn away to idolatry, i.e. to the eating of things sacrificed to idols

Matthew 5:31-32

“...But I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery (**moichao**): and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery (**moichao**).

Matthew 19:8-9

“... And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication (**porneia**), and shall marry another, committeth adultery (**moichao**): and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery (**moichao**).”

Strong's number: 4202; Greek: **porneia**; Pronunciation: por-ni'-ah; from 4203; harlotry (including adultery and incest); figuratively, idolatry: --fornication.

Strong's number: 3429; Greek: **moichao**; Pronunciation: moy-khah'-o; from 3432; (middle voice) to commit adultery: --commit adultery. (To have unlawful intercourse with another's wife, to commit adultery with.)

Merriam Webster's Dictionary of English Usage

Fornication: consensual sexual intercourse between two persons not married to each other

Adultery: voluntary sexual intercourse between a married man and someone other than his wife or between a married woman and someone other than her husband;

Jesus Disciples' Confusion

Matthew 19:10-12 “...If the case of the man be so with his wife, it is not good to marry.”

1 Corinthians 7:1-2, 8-9 “...Nevertheless, to avoid fornication (**porneia**), let every man have”

From the Beginning

Mark 10:4-12 “...Whosoever shall put away his wife, and marry another, committeth adultery (**moichao**) against her. And if a woman shall put away her husband, and be married to another, she committeth adultery (**moichao**).”

Fornication can only Occur Prior to Marriage (Espoused, Betrothal, Engaged)

Matthew 1:18-25 “...When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph,”

Divorce in Biblical Times

The rate of divorce during the time of Jesus was much like it is today. People could get divorces easily and did so freely. Why do you think they did so? Lust. The reason for divorce is lust.

In the Greek culture of that time, a married man could have a relationship outside of marriage without any shame at all. In fact, extramarital relationships for men were considered normal by Greek society. Perhaps you have heard the statement of Demosthenes: “We have prostitutes for the sake of pleasure, concubines for daily co-habitation, and wives for having legitimate children.” Greek husbands required their wives to live in seclusion in complete moral purity while they themselves lived in total immorality. In fact, at the temple of Aphrodite in Corinth

The Ten Commandments

there were one thousand sacred prostitutes. What was their purpose? To service the Greek men who came to worship.

Roman society had a strong sense of family until Rome conquered Greece militarily. Then everything changed, and Greece ended up conquering Rome with its immorality. The Romans began to practice the immorality of the Greeks, which included the practice of easy divorce, to the destruction of Roman families.

In the Jewish culture at the time of Jesus there were two schools of thought on divorce. One small group of people, led by Rabbi Shammai, was conservative. They interpreted Deuteronomy 24:1-4 to say that a husband could divorce his wife only for the reason of adultery. Then there was a liberal school, which was the predominant view, led by Rabbi Hillel. These people said that a husband could divorce his wife for any and every reason, which was what the Pharisees were asking Jesus about.

What did Hillel mean by "any and every reason"? He meant that a man could divorce his wife if the food was too salty, or if she was seen in public with her head uncovered. A man could divorce his wife if she talked with men in the streets, if she was a brawling woman, if she spoke disrespectfully about her in-laws in her husband's presence, or if she was troublesome or quarrelsome. Rabbi Akiba, who agreed with Hillel, said that a man could even divorce his wife if he found someone prettier. In other words, a man's roving eye could be used as a reason to divorce.

The view of the school of Hillel was predominant at the time of Jesus. And we must note here that in the Jewish culture of the time women had very few rights. Only men could initiate divorce proceedings. So there were many men who were putting away their wives for any and every reason--ultimately, because of their lusts, as Jesus taught in the Sermon on the Mount, Matthew 5:31-32--and families were collapsing throughout Jewish society. Divorce was a common as marriage; thus, the question of the Pharisees was a practical one.

The Teachings of Apostle Paul

Romans 7:1-3 "...but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law;"

Galatians 5:19-21 "Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery,"

2 Timothy 2:22 "Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace,"

1 Thessalonians 4:3-8 "For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; Not in the lust of concupiscence (**epithumia**), even as the Gentiles which know not God:"

Strong's number: 1939; Greek: **epithumia**; Pronunciation: ep-ee-thoo-mee'-ah; from 1937; a longing (especially for what is forbidden): --concupiscence, desire, lust (after).

The Teachings in the Book of Mormon

Jacob 2:36-38, 54-57 "...For I, the Lord God, delighteth in the chastity of women."

3 Nephi 5:76-80 "...whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her, hath committed adultery"

What it says in the Book of Commandments Concerning Adultery

Chapter 47 Verses 21-24 (page #81)

The Ten Commandments

21. Behold, verily I say unto you, that whatsoever persons among you having put away their companions, for the cause of fornication, or in other words, if they shall testify before you, in all lowliness of heart that this is the case, ye shall not cast them out from among you:

22. But if ye shall find that any persons, have left their companions, for the sake of adultery, and they themselves are the offenders, and their companions are living, they shall be cast out from among you.

23. And again I say unto you, that ye shall be watchful and careful, with all inquiry, that ye receive none such among you, if they are married.

24. And if they are not married, they shall repent of all their sins, or ye shall not receive them. Amen.

Spiritual

Malachi 2:1,7-17 "And now, O ye priests, this commandment is for you."

"... Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth. **For the Lord, the God of Israel, saith that he hateth putting away.**"

Jeremiah 3:6-8 "... And I saw, when for all the causes whereby backsliding Israel committed adultery (**na'aph**) I had put her away, and given her a bill of Divorce; yet her treacherous sister Judah feared not, but went and played the harlot also."

Jeremiah 5:7-9 "How shall I pardon thee for this? thy children have forsaken me, and sworn by them that are no gods: when I had fed them to the full, they then committed adultery (**na'aph**),"

Ezekiel 23:36-39 "... That they have committed adultery (**na'aph**), and blood is in their hands, and with their idols have they committed adultery (**na'aph**),"

Isaiah 1:18-19 "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins"

Isaiah 54:4-8 "... For thy Maker is thine husband; the Lord of hosts is his name;"

Isaiah 61:10 "... as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride"

Matthew 12:34-39 "... An evil and adulterous (**moichalis**) generation seeketh after a sign;"

John 3:29 "He that hath the bride is the bridegroom: but the friend of the bridegroom,"

2 Corinthians 11:1-2 "... I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you"

Revelations 2:18-23

"... Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication (**porneuo**), and to eat things sacrificed unto idols. And I gave her space to repent of her fornication (**porneia**); and she repented not. Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery (**moicheuo**) with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds. And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works."

Revelations 21:2-3, 9 "And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband."

"... Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife."

Revelations 22:17 "And the Spirit and the bride say, Come."

Isaiah 62:1-5 "... but thou shalt be called Hephzibah (Hebrew: Chephtsiy bah; my delight is in her), and thy land Beulah: for the Lord delighteth in thee, and thy land shall be married."

The Ten Commandments

Comparison of the Physical and Spiritual Marriage

Ephesians 5:20-33

8. (Deuteronomy 5:19) Neither shalt thou steal.

Strong's number: 1589; Hebrew: ganab; Pronunciation: gaw-nab'; a primitive root; to thieve (literally or figuratively); by implication, to deceive: -carry away, X indeed, secretly bring, steal (away), get by stealth.

2 Nephi 11:110 "And, again, the Lord God hath commanded that men should not"

Ephesians 4:28

Let him that stole steal (**klepto**) no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.

Strong's number: 2813; Greek: **klepto**; Pronunciation: klep'-to a primary verb; to filch (steal by stealth): --steal.

Matthew Henry's Commentary

"This command forbids us to rob ourselves of what we have by sinful spending, or of the use and comfort of it by sinful sparing, and to rob others by removing the ancient landmarks, invading our neighbor's rights, taking his goods from his person, or house, or field, forcibly or clandestinely, over-reaching in bargains, nor restoring what is borrowed or found, withholding just debts, rents, or wages, and (which is worst of all) to rob the public in the coin or revenue, or that which is dedicated to the service of religion."

God has Made Us Stewards Over All That He Has Created

Genesis 1:26 "...Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion"

Mosiah 2:37 "...for withholding your substance, which doth not belong to you, but to God,"

Luke 16:10-12 "...If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon,"

Proverbs 10:2 "Treasures of wickedness profit nothing: but righteousness delivereth from death."

Matthew 6:19-21 "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth"

Matthew 16:26 "For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own"

Jacob 2:22-24 "Think of your brethren, like unto yourselves, and be familiar with all,"

Robbing the Poor

Proverbs 3:27-28 "Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power"

Robbing God

Malachi 3:8-11 "Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we"

3 Nephi 11:11-12 "Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we"

Defraud (cheat) and Deception

Leviticus 19:13

Thou shalt not defraud (**ashaq**) thy neighbour, neither rob him: the wages of him that is hired shall not abide with thee all night until the morning.

The Ten Commandments

Strong's number: 6231; Hebrew: **`ashaq**; Pronunciation: aw-shak'; a primitive root (compare 6229); to press upon, i.e. oppress, defraud, violate, overflow: --get deceitfully, deceive, defraud, drink up, (use) oppress([-ion]), -or), do violence (wrong).

Mark 10:19 "Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Defraud (**apostereo**)not, Honour thy father and mother."

Strong's number: 650; Greek: **apostereo**; Pronunciation: ap-os-ter-eh'-o; from 575 and stereo (to deprive); to despoil: --defraud, destitute, kept back by fraud.

1 Corinthians 6:7-9 "Now therefore there is utterly a fault among you, because ye go to law one"

1 Thessalonians 4:6-7 "That no man go beyond and defraud his brother in any matter:"

Romans 12:11 "Not slothful (**okneros**) in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;"

Strong's number: 3636; Greek: **okneros**; Pronunciation: ok-nay-ros'; from 3635; tardy, i.e. indolent; (figuratively) irksome: --grievous, slothful.

Ammon before King Lamoni

Alma 12:80 "Surely, there has not been any servant among all my servants, that has been so faithful as this man; for even he doth remember all my commandments to execute them."

Alma to his son Corianton

Alma 19:19-20 "Therefore I command you, my son, in the fear of God, that you refrain from"

Satan's Power to Deceive

3 Nephi 3:11-18 "Now the cause of this iniquity of the people, was this: Satan had great power,"

9. (Deuteronomy. 5:20) Neither shalt thou bear (**`anah**) false (**shav**) witness (**`ed**) against thy neighbour.

Bear

Strong's number: 6030; Hebrew: **`anah**; Pronunciation: aw-naw'; a primitive root; properly, to eye or (generally) to heed, i.e. pay attention; by implication, to respond; by extens. to begin to speak; specifically to sing, shout, testify, announce: --give account, afflict [by mistake for 6031], (cause to, give) answer, bring low [by mistake for 6031], cry, hear, Leannoth, lift up, say, X scholar, (give a) shout, sing (together by course), speak, testify, utter, (bear) witness. See also 1042, 1043.

False

Strong's number: 7723; Hebrew: **shav**'; Pronunciation: shawv; or shav {shav}; from the same as 7722 in the sense of desolating; evil (as destructive), literally (ruin) or morally (especially guile); figuratively idolatry (as false, subjective), uselessness (as deceptive, objective; also adverbially, in vain): --false(-ly), lie, lying, vain, vanity.

Witness

Strong's number: 5707; Hebrew: **`ed**; Pronunciation: ayd; contracted from 5749 ; concretely, a witness; abstractly, testimony; specifically, a recorder, i.e. prince: --witness.

Matthew Henry's Commentary

The Ten Commandments

“The ninth commandment concerns our own and our neighbour's good name. This forbids speaking falsely on any matter, lying, equivocating, and any way devising or designing to deceive our neighbour. Speaking unjustly against our neighbour, to hurt his reputation. Bearing false witness against him, or in common conversation slandering, backbiting, and tale-bearing; making what is done amiss, worse than it is, and in any way endeavouring to raise our reputation upon the ruin of our neighbour's. How much this command is every day broken among persons of all ranks!”

In The Mouth of Two or Three Witnesses

Deuteronomy 19:15-21 “...at the mouth of two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses,”

Righteous Witness

Exodus 23:1-3 “Thou shalt not raise a false report: put not thine hand with the wicked to be an unrighteous witness. Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil; neither shalt thou speak in a cause to decline after many to wrest judgment: Neither shalt thou countenance (**hadar**) a poor man in his cause.”

Strong's number: 1921; Hebrew: **hadar**; Pronunciation: haw-dar'; a primitive root; to swell up (literally or figuratively, active or passive); by implication, to favor or honour, be high or proud: -countenance, crooked place, glorious, honour, put forth.

Leviticus 19:15 “Ye shall do no unrighteousness in judgment: thou shalt not respect the person”

Note: Moses had the people choose “Wise Men” among each tribe, which he would make rulers over them. They were to judge the matters among the people according to the law of God to maintain order in the society. Deuteronomy 1:9-18

Put Away Lying

Leviticus 19:11-12 “Ye shall not steal, neither deal falsely, neither lie one to another.”

Ephesians 4:22-25 “Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour:”

Satan – Father of Lies

2 Nephi 1:104 “...even that old serpent, who is the devil, who is the father of all lies;”

Ether 3:100-101 “...for it is built up by the devil, who is the father of all lies;”

Why We Lie

Fear – Not wanting to face the consequences

Vengeance / Anger – Slander and Gossip

Insecurity – Exaggerate to Impress and to Distort

Greed – To get gain under false pretenses

Protect Others (Misguided) – White lies

Laziness – Easier path to walk instead of speaking the truth

Habit – Becomes a way of life

Lying Ultimately Destroys Trust and Damages Relationships

Destroys our Relationship with God

The Ten Commandments

Psalms 50:23 "Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me: and to him that ordereth his conversation"

Psalms 145:18 "The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth."

John 4:24 "God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth."

John 14:6 "...I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."

Destroys our Relationship with Ourselves

Colossians 3:15 "And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called"

1 Timothy 4:2 "Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;"

Acts 5:1-11 (Ananias, with Sapphira his wife)

Destroys our Relationship with Others

Proverbs 10:9 "He that walketh uprightly (**tom**) walketh surely: but he that perverteth (**aqash**) his ways shall be known."

Strong's number: 8537; Hebrew: **tom**; Pronunciation: tome; from 8552; completeness; figuratively, prosperity; usually (morally) innocence: --full, integrity, perfect(-ion), simplicity, upright(-ly, -ness), at a venture. See 8550. Tema'. See 8485.

Strong's number: 6140; Hebrew: **'aqash**; Pronunciation: aw-kash'; a primitive root; to knot or distort; figuratively, to pervert (act or declare perverse): --make crooked, (prove, that is) perverse(-rt).

Acts 24:16 "...to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men."

Final Thought

2 Peter 3:10-11 "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night;"

3 Nephi 5:83 "But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay;"

10. (Deuteronomy. 5:21) Neither shalt thou desire (**chamad**) thy neighbour's wife, neither shalt thou covet (**avah**) thy neighbour's house, his field, or his manservant, or his maidservant, his ox, or his ass, or any thing that is thy neighbour's.

Strong's number: 2530; Hebrew: **chamad**; Pronunciation: khaw-mad'; a primitive root; to delight in: -beauty, greatly beloved, covet, delectable thing, (X great) delight, desire, goodly, lust, (be) pleasant (thing), precious (thing).

Strong's number: 183; Hebrew: **'avah**; Pronunciation: aw-vaw'; a primitive root; to wish for: --covet, (greatly) desire, be desirous, long, lust (after).

The Father of Coveting

2 Nephi 10:34-36 "...For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my"

Thoughts of the Heart

Genesis 6:5 "...God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually."

Genesis 8:21 "...for the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth;"

Romans 7:21 "I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me."

The Ten Commandments

2 Nephi 3:33-34 "... when I desire to rejoice, my heart groaneth because of my sins;"

James 3:13-16

Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom. But if ye have bitter envying (**zelos**) and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. For where envying (**zelos**) and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.

Strong's number: 2205; Greek: **zelos**; Pronunciation: dzay'-los; from 2204; properly, heat, i.e. (figuratively) zeal (in a favorable sense, ardor; in an unfavorable one, jealousy, as of a husband [figuratively, of God], or an enemy, malice): --emulation, envy(-ing), fervent mind, indignation, jealousy, zeal.

Romans 13:9

"... Thou shalt not covet (**epithumeo**); and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself."

Strong's number: 1937; Greek: **epithumeo**; Pronunciation: ep-ee-thoo-meh'-o; from 1909 and 2372; to set the heart upon, i.e. long for (rightfully or otherwise): --covet, desire, would fain, lust (after).

Scriptural Examples of Coveting

Coveting Another Man's Wife - King David

2 Samuel 11:1-3 "... he saw a woman washing herself; and the woman was very beautiful to look upon."

Coveting Another Man's Material Possessions - Achan

Joshua 6:16-19 "... And the city shall be accursed, even it, and all that are therein, to the Lord:"

Joshua 7:1-26 "But the children of Israel committed a trespass in the accursed thing: for Achan,"

Coveting Your Own Possessions - Ananias and Sapphira

Acts 5:1-4 "But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession,"

Coveting as a Positive Thing

Matthew 5:8 "Blessed are the pure in heart (**kardia**): for they shall see God."

Strong's number: 2588; Greek: **kardia**; Pronunciation: kar-dee'-ah; prolonged from a primary kar (Latin, cor, heart); the heart, i.e. (figuratively) the thoughts or feelings (mind); also (by analogy) the middle: --(+ broken-)heart(-ed).

1 Corinthians 12:31 "But covet (**zeloo**) earnestly the best gifts:"

1 Corinthians 14:39-40 "Wherefore, brethren, covet (**zeloo**) to prophesy, and forbid not to speak"

Strong's number: 2206; Greek: **zeloo**; Pronunciation: dzay-lo'-o; from 2205; to have warmth of feeling for or against: --affect, covet (earnestly), (have) desire, (move with) envy, be jealous over, (be) zealous(-ly affect).

The Ten Commandments

Conclusion Concerning the Ten Commandments of God

Deuteronomy 5:22-29

These words the Lord spake unto all your assembly in the mount out of the midst of the fire, of the cloud, and of the thick darkness, with a great voice: and he added no more. And he wrote them in two tables of stone, and delivered them unto me.

And it came to pass, when ye heard the voice out of the midst of the darkness, (for the mountain did burn with fire,) that ye came near unto me, even all the heads of your tribes, and your elders;

And ye said, Behold, the Lord our God hath shewed us his glory and his greatness, and we have heard his voice out of the midst of the fire: we have seen this day that God doth talk with man, and he liveth.

Now therefore why should we die? for this great fire will consume us: if we hear the voice of the Lord our God any more, then we shall die.

For who is there of all flesh, that hath heard the voice of the living God speaking out of the midst of the fire, as we have, and lived?

Go thou near, and hear all that the Lord our God shall say: and speak thou unto us all that the Lord our God shall speak unto thee; and we will hear it, and do it.

And the Lord heard the voice of your words, when ye spake unto me; and the Lord said unto me, I have heard the voice of the words of this people, which they have spoken unto thee: they have well said all that they have spoken.

O that there were such an heart in them, that they would fear me, and keep all my commandments always, that it might be well with them, and with their children for ever!